

What the District Bowlers Are Doing---News and Gossip of the Leagues

HOPPE WILL RETURN

Billiard Champion to Play Here in February.

MEETING WORTHY OPPONENT

Charley Wolfe Demonstrates His Superiority Over Local Star-Interests. Billiard Game Flourishing--Other Gossip Concerning the Sport.

Willie Hoppe, the greatest wielder of a billiard cue the world has ever known, will return to Washington some time next February, provided suitable arrangements can be made in respect to the seating accommodations.

The failure on the part of Frank Sherman to obtain a hall of sufficient dimensions so as to warrant ample seating arrangements, is to be regretted, but in justice to the popular manager of the Royal parlors, it is only fair to say that a systematic search on his part failed to reveal any hall suitable to accommodate the great number of adherents to the game, who were turned away through the inadequate accommodation.

Few people realize the great amount of work necessary to pull off an exhibition of this kind, such as obtaining the proper kind of a hall, the seating arrangements, etc. Strangers it may seem, when the owner of a suitable hall is approached in regard to renting it for just such an occasion, he takes great delight in placing the figure at a prohibitive price.

Unless the proposed plans fall through Hoppe will be seen in a match where his opponent will be of a caliber sufficient to make him extend himself to the limit. While those who were fortunate in obtaining seats to see him in his exhibitions were rewarded by some phenomenal billiards, the opposition was of such that all at once he was forced to let out in order to hold or obtain a commanding lead.

That the champion was well received can be testified by the fact that the chief topic of conversation around all the local parlors is nothing but billiards and of the great runs and shots which he made.

Hoppe's run of 255 brought out nearly every shot in the champion repertoire. Starting the run by making a difficult masse, he followed it up with one of the most brilliant exhibitions ever witnessed on any table. Terrible drives and draws, the execution of seemingly impossible masses, combined with faultless position play, followed in rapid succession until he had finally brought the run to a close by missing a kiss shot.

Throughout this match with the king of champions, Frank Sherman, one-time pool champion, invariably at the completion of his run, he wanted to cue in the air as though he wanted to count on the string. After the match Frank said it had been so long since he had played in a match where the principal aim was to win that he forgot himself.

Hoppe's exhibition of fancy shots was well worth the price of admission, but take it from us, Frank Sherman would have a few on a pool table around at the Press Club that were just as classy as any the billiard wizard pulled off. Frank made a couple of jump shots with the object ball lying near the foot of the pocket that took the crowd by storm.

Charley Wolfe demonstrated without a doubt that he is the best the city has. The writer knows of only one man who could take his measure and that is none other than "Pop" Gray. In view of the fact that Mr. Gray no longer participates in match games the honor of being the city's best naturally falls to Wolfe.

The writer has been requested to give a list of the fancy shots as they were made by Hoppe in his exhibition. The champion's first shot was a long masse, followed by a time shot, force follow draw, double draw, back-hand masse, four-cushion masse, close draw, force follow, calculation time shot, wing masse, masse through the red ball, force cushion masse, force reverse three cushions, swing draw for position, all balls in motion and a spin kiss. This most spectacular of the two being the masse through the red ball with all three balls on the rail and the spin kiss. While these two shots looked the hardest, Hoppe admits that they are comparatively easy when played with the four-cushion masse in which all three balls are bunched in the corner, and the cue ball makes four cushions on two rails.

The attention of the local billiardists at the present time is centered on the coming match between Charley Wolfe and Linhardt, Baltimore's premier cue wielder. Unless the dope goes wrong the Baltimorean is in for a good trimming, as Wolfe is shooting a game at least 50 per cent stronger than he ever did. Under the careful guidance and coaching of Frank Sherman, he is gradually becoming that greatest of all assets to a good billiard player, position play, and the execution of the masse from all positions.

Representative Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, was one of those present on the last night of Hoppe's exhibition. The champion was more than anxious to show the distinguished visitor a high run, and more than outdid himself in the eighth inning, when he counted 255, and just to show that he still had another good run left in him, came back in the ninth with 112. Some manipulation of the ivory, so to speak.

The opening night found the hall damp and cold and the champion continually found the balls jumping, spoiling all chances of a high run or good average. Tuesday night the atmospheric conditions were perfect as can be seen by the average of 45-11, which the wizard pulled off. When a man finishes up a 500 string in eleven innings he is shooting billiards that takes phenomenal play to beat.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Sherman could not find a more suitable place to pull off the "show." It is safe to say that had the accommodations been three times what they were every seat would have been taken and some turned away, as was the case at all three exhibitions.

Hoppe's greatest shot of the series came on the last night during his phenomenal run of 255 against Ed. Hickey. After running his count up to 201, the

Always the Same.
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812 F Street N. W. Phone Main 1141.
Special Private Delivery.

HOPPE'S PRETTY WIFE.



ALICE WALSH HOPPE, New York girl who eloped with young billiard champion, and who is always present at his match games.

champion found the balls all on the end rail, necessitating a difficult shot around the table after playing off the red or, as the champion put it, "a three-cushion shot would leave the balls separated. Hoppe played the masse and set the crowd wild by not only counting the billiard, but by retaining position. This shot brought his count up to 202, and on the next shot a bad kiss separated the balls. On the next two shots he was gradually getting them lined together again when he found them lined in the corner with the alternative of playing a masse or kiss. The champion chose the latter, only to miss by a hair's breadth and bring the great run to a close.

During his two evening appearances, Mr. Hoppe's bride was an interested spectator. Mrs. Hoppe was formerly Miss Alice Walsh, of New York, and is a sister to George Walsh, the well-known Georgetown football star.

Bring on the Wolfe-Linhardt match. Every one has the ivory ball buzzing in his bonnet, and it is needless to say that quite a few have lined those ideas on the game with ivory. We don't mind admitting that we deal a little bit in elephant tusks when it comes to the billiard game, but anything for a boost. We all learn in time, only it takes more time than the rest. We belong to the latter.

LEN COLLINS.

RACE PROVES TO BE CLOSE

Dumbarton's Top Sunday School League Bowlers.

Fowler Leads on the Individual Prizes--Averages Announced by Official Scorer.

The race in the Sunday School Bowling League for first honors is one of the prettiest in the city. The Dumbarton aggregation is leading the field, with the Mount Pleasant, Brightwood, and West Washington quints within striking distance.

High-team game and set is held by the Brightwood bunch, who have posted 509 and 2,564, respectively. Fowler seems to have a monopoly on the individual prizes, as he not only holds high average of 188, which is fifteen points better than his nearest man, but also lays claim to high game of 255 and high set of 667.

The official averages as compiled by Official Scorer, Lewers, are:

TEAM	TH	W	L	Av.	Set
Dumbarton	21	16	5	262.8	2,564
Mount Pleasant	24	18	6	262.5	2,495
Brightwood	24	18	6	253.2	2,495
West Washington	27	12	15	266.1	2,444
Harvard	27	12	15	266.1	2,444
Bethany	30	10	20	257.7	2,332

High team game--Brightwood, 509.

High team set--Brightwood, 2,564.

High individual game--Fowler (Brightwood), 255.

High individual set--Fowler, 667.

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES.

Bowler	G.	H.G.	Av.
Fowler	4	255	188.3
People	4	225	175.5
Campbell	17	236	198.15
Roby	20	209	195.15
Williamson	21	338	196.1
Goodman	24	199	166.25
Smith	27	229	165.15
Lowell	24	206	165.12
Lowell	30	191	162
Pay	19	197	160.1
Trout	21	213	159.2
Caldwell	24	192	158.11
Pay	24	189	157.2
R. Boyce	21	198	156.1
Adams	15	197	154.7
H. Hart	24	181	152.8
O. Oehler	12	200	153.8
Weber	21	188	153.5
W. Bagley	15	189	152.2
Jaobst	6	166	141.4
Dolin	18	176	140.1
Hay	21	183	138.13
Walter	30	171	133.8
Schwartz	6	157	131.1
Stacy	15	159	129.2
Marks	9	166	128.4
Goff	6	154	127.1
Veitling	6	122	114.2
Edgington	15	121	106.4
Emmert	9	136	105.1
Travers	5	88	84.2

LEAGUE NOTES.

Manager Cornwell is gradually getting the alleys into first-class shape. When he took charge, the alleys had been misused in a manner that would soon have put them completely on the "bum," but proper treatment is bringing them around, as can be testified by the improvement in the scores.

Capt. Lanahan, of the Rialto, is slowly improving from his long siege of illness. If well-wishes were medicine of the right kind, he would be a well man to-day. Campbell's high game of 162 will take some awful classy bowling on the part of some one to be beaten. When you put up a score better than the 160 mark, you are going some.

Manager Walter, of the Hilltop aggregation, cannot see a thing to it but his team. This is the kind of confidence that puts the proper spirit into your team mates and wins.

You will have to hand it to Manager Sam Cornwell. He never does things by halves. Sam hung up a turkey last week for weekly prize that weighed twenty-seven pounds.

The Atlantics are traveling at a pace that will mean championship honors unless some of the others break that winning streak. They have won their last nine games, and from a second division

team they are now within striking distance of the top leaders.

"Dutch" Draeger is gradually rounding into his form of previous years. His work during the last few sets has been of a very high standard.

This boy Loveless, under proper coaching, will make a star. He has a dandy strike ball, but is just a trifle weak on spares.

It's worth money to see Waters and Keith hook up in one of their daily matches. Talk about your kidding match! If both boys didn't thoroughly understand each other, some of their set-tos would end in a free-for-all.

The boys of the league are unanimous in voting Manager Cornwell a good old scout. Same is always looking out for them in one way or another.

We wish to call the attention of a couple of the teams to that old saying, "The world loves a game lover, but a quitter, never." Remember this the next time your team is scheduled to bowl.

WOMEN BOWLERS ROLL AT BUFFALO

Special Arrangements Being Made for Them.

The Buffalo Bowling and Amusement Company, which was incorporated with a capital stock of \$15,000 to conduct the national convention bowling tournament, is meeting with splendid support from out-of-town pin knights, and, if the local alley-owners and those interested in the great indoor sport show as much interest as the outsiders, Buffalo will be able to boast of having held the grandest tourney of the kind ever known to the game.

A special tournament will be conducted by the company for the women bowlers of the country. It will schedule twenty teams, five to each team, to roll three games each, total pins to count. The schedule will be arranged to roll two teams each evening. This will make ten evenings during the tournament which will be set aside for the women. The company will award fifteen prizes, of which fourteen will be given to the fourteen high women teams. The fifteenth prize will be given to the team making the lowest score in three games. There will be no entrance fee for the women. Only twenty teams will be allowed to compete. Special alleys will be used.

The management has received word that Chicago, Cincinnati, Brooklyn, New York, and Detroit will send women teams. A committee will entertain the women bowlers.

It is estimated that New York State will enter 20 five-man teams, and six cities from Canada, 35 five-man teams; Pennsylvania, 20 teams; Ohio, 40 teams; Illinois, 25 teams; New Jersey, 20; Maryland, 20; Michigan, 20. Twenty-five more teams are being added by these States: Massachusetts, Kentucky, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Missouri, Connecticut, and Indiana, making about 50 five-man teams.

The management bases the estimates on the news that is being received from the different States. There will be about \$25,000 in cash prizes.

DUAL MEET PLANNED.

Philadelphia Swimmers to Compete Against Local Cracks.

On Monday, January 2, at 4 o'clock, the Argo Swimming Club, of the Central Y. M. C. A., of Philadelphia, will swim against the Nautilus Swimming Club, of the local association. The events for the contest will be: One length of pool, four lengths of pool, fancy dive, two lengths of pool, eight lengths of pool, plunze for distance, one length of pool using breast stroke, underwater swim for distance, relay race, and exhibition race.

The exhibition race will be run off using the local swimmers only. The swimmers will start at one end of the pool, fully attired, swim to the other end, disrobe, and then return to the starting point. The first one to reach the starting point will be declared the winner, and will be presented with a prize by the boomers of the Panama Exposition for California.

"CHUBBY" CHARLES INJURED.

Chicago Cubs' President Meets with Bad Accident.

Chicago, Dec. 24.--President Charles P. Murphy, of the Chicago Cubs baseball club, broke his right arm in a severe fall on the icy sidewalk near his Sheridan road home last night. The arm was placed in a plaster cast to-day. The large bone snapped a little above the elbow.

JOLLY FAT MEN'S BOWLING TEAM, DISTRICT LEAGUE.



Stohlman, Krauss, Brosnan, Graff, Waters, Field, Fritz, Rodrick.

DEATH BUSY AMONG LEADERS IN SPORTS

Year of 1910 Reaps Unusually Heavy Harvest.

ON DIAMOND AND ELSEWHERE

Prize Ring Has Lost Ketchell and Gans--Football, Aviation, and Other Athletic Games Swell the List Greatly--Billiards, Skating, and Automobile Racing Contribute.

New York, Dec. 24.--Death has reaped a rich harvest in the field of sport and athletics during the year now drawing to a close. Baseball in particular has lost an unusually large number of its leaders. Prominent among those identified with the national game who have passed away during the year are Thomas J. Loftus, one of the most famous baseball players and managers of history; Henry V. Lucas, who owned the St. Louis Browns when they were champions of the world; Col. John I. Rogers, former national champion of the Philadelphia National League club; Eugene F. Burt, for several years president of the Pacific Coast League; Samuel L. Wright, who at the time of his death was president of the Ohio and Pennsylvania League; John Morrow, who was one of the first presidents of the Southern League; James P. Walsh, owner of the Rockford team of the Wisconsin-Illinois League, and McDonald Douglas, manager of the Stockton club of the California State League.

Many Diamond Stars in List.

Among the active players and former stars of the diamond who died during the year were Sam Wise, who was shortstop for the Boston club when it won the National League championship in 1885, and later a member of the Baltimore club; Jack O'Brien, catcher of the Philadelphia Athletics when that team won the American Association championship in the same year; James W. ("Bug") Holliday, once the greatest outfielder playing baseball; Michael P. Hines, catcher for the Boston Nationals in the early '90s; Allan M. Stone, who played all the infield positions with the Pittsburgh Nationals in 1905-06; Joseph Nvalon, who played first base for the Pittsburgh Nationals during two seasons; Morris Critchley, an old pitcher for Pittsburgh; Patrick M. Downing, for several years a player with the Southern League and the Blue Grass League teams, and Joseph C. Hennessy, an outfielder last season on the Trenton (N. J.) team.

Patrick Murphy, who played with the old New York Giants in the '30s; "Wild Bill" Hassamer, formerly with the Washington club; Tom Doran, who played with Boston and Detroit and with many minor league clubs; Charles Esper, formerly a pitcher for the old Athletics; Harry E. Staley, who caught for the Boston Nationals years ago; Jack Horner, scout for the Detroit American League club; Robert Pettit, who played under Anson with the Chicago Nationals; Owen Jackson, of the Lynchburg team of the Virginia League, and Ray Marshall, who played right field for the Jacksonville (Fla.) team.

Stanley Ketchell, champion light-weight, and Joe Gans, former champion in the same class, head the list of fighters who have passed away during the twelve months. Other figures of more or less prominence in the world of pugilism who have died during the year include Tom Mace, the old English heavy-weight; Tom Bates, of New Jersey, who at one time held the light-weight championship of England; Johnny Dwyer, once well known as a feather-weight fighter; Frederick G. Bullen, of Bridgeport, Conn., former light-weight champion; Doc Payne, the old Cleveland boxer; Walter Whitehead, a negro pugilist well known in the Northwest; Tommy McCarthy, who died as a result of a bout with Owen Moran; Johnny Murphy, a San Francisco light-weight; Billy Dunning, a heavy-weight boxer; and Kid Hyland, a young boxer of Buffalo.

Among the notables of the turf who passed away were Phil Daly, Robert L. Tucker, a noted horse owner and trainer of Louisville; Allen B. Staunbury, of Baltimore, known as a horseman throughout the United States and Canada; Lucien O. Appleby, who had been actively engaged in racing since 1861; Stoughton R. Clark, of the local association, the events for the contest will be: One length of pool, four lengths of pool, fancy dive, two lengths of pool, eight lengths of pool, plunze for distance, one length of pool using breast stroke, underwater swim for distance, relay race, and exhibition race.

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MEETS BALTIMORE CRACK.



CHARLEY WOLFE, Well-known District billiardist, who will play Linhardt a 400-point match for intercity honors.

links, and Sprague Abbott, who won the trans-Mississippi championship in 1907. Leaders of the gridiron sport who passed away included Francis Burr and James J. Hogan, former captains, respectively, of the Harvard and Yale teams; Earl Wilson, of the naval cadets; Ralph Wilson, halfback of the Wash College team; Rudolph Monk, captain of the West Virginia University eleven, and L. B. Payne, of the Cornell freshmen.

In other fields of sport many were mentioned. Hugh J. McCormick, ex-champion skater of the world; Ralph Johnstone, the aviator; John Durbin Freeman, expert polo player; William Martin, Cornish wrestling champion, and Al Livingston, Tobin de Hymel, Thomas Kincaid, and W. H. Sharpe, well-known drivers of racing automobiles.

SPLENDID SEASON FOR NEW LEAGUE

Northeastern Duckpin Rollers Register Fine Scores.

The Northeastern Duckpin League is experiencing a very successful season. If the standing of the teams, in number of games won and lost, is a fair criterion. At the present time the Hilltop and Eastern aggregations are tied for first place, with 23 won and 7 lost, while the Atlantics are only three games behind the leaders.

Campbell, of the Knockers, has high individual game of 162, while Symonowski's 361 for three-game total tops the list. The Atlantics' high team game of 557 still stands.

The official standing of the teams up to and including all games rolled during the past week, follows:

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.	W.	L.	Pct.
Hilltop	23	7	.769
Eastern	23	7	.769
Knockers	13	17	.431
Atlantics	13	17	.431

REGISTER FINE SCORES.

National Capital Crack Shots Compete Against St. Louis Rivals.

The National Capital Rifle and Revolver Association opened the league season last evening, shooting its first match with the pistol and revolver, against the St. Louis Revolver Club.

After next week the schedule calls for two matches each week with twenty-four clubs entered from all sections of the country. The scores are telegraphed to the headquarters of the league in Springfield, Mass.

The scores made last evening are far above the average, and if this high standard is maintained the local club will undoubtedly stand high in the series for the season.

The scores: F. Holt, 107; S. Ferree, 216; M. E. Atkinson, 236; J. C. Bunn, 238; H. Leizear, 217; total, 1,003.

Terry McGovern Arrested.

New York, Dec. 24.--"Terrible Terry" McGovern, formerly bantam-weight champion, was halted at the Gates Avenue Court this morning to answer a charge of intoxication. He pleaded not guilty, and as the officer who arrested him was absent with a black eye, it was said--Magistrate Geismeyer suspended sentence.

ALLEY OWNERS ORGANIZE FOR MUTUAL PROTECTION

Washington Proprietors May Reduce Price of Games. Prominent Philadelphia Bowler in Town.

By "LEN" COLLINS.

A plan to form a national bowling alley owners' association has at last come to a head. Alley owners from all parts of the country will meet in St. Louis between January 22 and 26, to form such an association for their mutual benefit and protection.

Letters have been written by a committee of the St. Louis Alley Owners' Association to owners all over the country, and from answers received both by mail and in person it would seem as though the new organization will be a success. The ideas of the association will not bind the members down by certain iron-clad rules, such as rates they must charge, size and kind of pins to be used, but will be for their benefit in the way of protecting each other in just such cases as that brought up by the A. B. C. rule which demands that all sanctioned alleys shall be played at least once each year.

The printed matter that will be continually sent out to the members of the association is to give the different members a means of keeping on their toes as to how to organize leagues, the care of pins, how often alleys should be shelled, and in fact all the points that may be of interest to the alley owners.

Rumor has it that the proprietor of one of Washington's best known alleys is contemplating reducing the price of the games from 19 cents straight to two for 15 cents, the object being to increase the business. Where he will increase his business from a financial standpoint is hard to see when it is taken into consideration that by doing this his receipts will be reduced 25 per cent. As an example, an alley doing a \$20 a day business necessarily has 20 games bowled. If the price was reduced to 15 per cent the owner would only take in \$15. To offset this reduction 20 games must be bowled every day to bring the proceeds back to \$20 at the reduced rate. In other words, the number of games bowled in radius of three blocks must increase three-eighths over that number in which he took in \$20 at the 19 cents straight plan. If this owner had about ten alleys and the receipts were only about \$20, this plan might work, but where he has only about six, we fail to see, when the wear and tear on the alleys is taken into consideration, where he will be making anything by this scheme.

Mr. Sylvester Keliher, who for four years was president of the city association of Philadelphia, was a visitor in the city during the past week. Mr. Keliher was very loud in his praise of the coming tournament to be held under the auspices of the National Bowling Association at Buffalo, next February. He predicted that the entry list in the five-man event at the coming tourney would show a very substantial increase over that of the one held at Baltimore last spring, and bases his claim on the fact that the State of New York would turn out over 200 teams.

Local bowlers seem to be noncommittal as to whether they are in favor of the individual plan of membership that will be brought up by the St. Louis bowlers during the coming convention of the American Bowling Congress, or will vote to retain the old club plan. Several of our leading bowlers have been approached, and their answers have been that it is purely immaterial to them, leaving it to the delegates, who will be elected next month.

The Washington high schools have at last fell into line and a league composed of bowling clubs from the different schools will be launched some time during the middle of January. New York, Chicago, and Indianapolis have had bowling leagues composed of high school students for the last eight or nine years, and it was only a question of time before Washington would follow suit. The writer, six years ago, while a member of the Business High School, tried to induce the faculty of several of the schools to lend their assistance in putting a league under way, but the proposal met with opposition. Bowling is one of the cleanest sports in existence, as the chance for questionable tactics is reduced to a minimum. The Washington alleys have been decided upon as the ones where the league will hold sway. Here's to the success of the league.

Tournament play is one of the best features of the bowling game, and in view of the fact that alley owners are the ones who derive the financial benefit therefrom, it should naturally be up to them to boost the coming tournament. If a tepid league rolls on a certain level for the last eight or nine years, in power to induce the men to enter the coming events, as competition leads to good bowling, and good bowling will insure the success of the game.

Speaking of an alley owners' association being formed at St. Louis next month, it's a wonder the local men next got together and have a little association of their own. Competition in this line of business in Washington has reached the state where if the proprietor of an alley goes into another, it's the matter of flaunting a red flag in the face of the one who is visited. Great doubt, talk about your mutual benefit to be derived from an association of this kind, the writer knows of several along this line that alley owners will never be able to realize until they get together.

Figures were presented not long ago in a local paper showing that the American people spent \$75,000,000 annually on sports. Professional baseball topped the list with \$17,000,000. A mere bagatelle compared with what the knights of maple spend each year. Right here in Washington the bowlers pass over about \$15,000 every season. If Washington possesses about one-hundredth of the bowling population of the country, how much at a rough estimate is expended by the bowlers each season? Figure it out for yourself.

As predicted in the columns of this paper some time ago, the entry list of the eleventh annual tournament to be held under the auspices of the American Bowling Congress, starting next month, will show more than 50 five-man teams down on the cards. Secretary Langtry at first was very direct in placing his estimate at this figure, but the assurances which he is receiving from all over the country show that this figure in all probability will be surpassed.

On Monday following New Year's Day, one of the biggest two-men matches pulled off around Washington during the present season will take place on the Central Y. M. C. A. alleys, when George Campbell, with M. S. Watson as a partner, takes on George Hanner and George Shaffer, in a three-game set, taken pins to count. This match has been hanging fire for some